

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ADDIS 03354 292029Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 MMO-01 OC-06
CCO-00 SY-05 PER-01 OPR-02 A-01 PC-01 /072 W
-----292038Z 125968 /73/40

O 291430Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4198

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 3354

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR TEXT PARA THREE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, US

SUBJ: FURTHER REDUCTION IN US MISSION ADDIS

REF: A. STATE 124567, B. STATE 124533, C. ADDIS ABABA 3348,
D. ADDIS ABABA 3347

1. AFTER HE VAINLY ATTEMPTED TO REACH AND CONSULT WITH FONMIN
ALL DAY, MOFA AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIRECTOR BERHANE DERESSA RECEIVED
ME LATE THIS AFTERNOON TO HEAR MY REQUESTS AND PASS THEM ON TO
HIS MINISTER. HE HAD OBVIOUSLY PLAYED LITTLE IF ANY PART IN EPMG
DECISION AND HAD NOT EVEN SEEN TEXT OF NOTE.

2. I REMINDED BERHANE THAT EMBASSY HAD INFORMED HIM MAY 17 OF
OUR INTENTION TO PHASE DOWN SIZE OF EMBASSY STAFF IN ORDERLY
MANNER OVER NEXT COUPLE MONTHS AND SAID WE HAD HOPED TO COMPLETE
PHASEDOWN BY JULY 31. OF 45 (PLUS 2
VACANT, BUT TO BE REPLACED) STATE POSITIONS ON STAFFING PATTERN
LIST PROVIDED HIM AT THAT TIME, USGOVT HAD IDENTIFIED 28 POSITIONS
WHICH WE HAD DETERMINED TO BE MINIMUM NUMBER SUFFICIENT TO CARRY
OUT PRESENT LEVEL OF EMBASSY ACTIVITY, WHICH HAD BEEN REDUCED
AS RESULT OF DEPARTURE OF OTHER US PERSONNEL DURING LAST WEEK
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OF APRIL. IN ORDER TO PREVENT PERSONAL HARDSHIP AND INCON-
VENIENCE TO EMPLOYEES AND FAMILIES INVOLVED, I REQUESTED THAT
SEVEN DAY DEADLINE BE WAIVED, AND THAT EMBASSY BE PERMITTED TO
PROCEED ON BASIS OF ITS ORIGINAL SCHEDULE AND ON BASIS OF RETAIN-
ING 28 STAFF MEMBERS, RATHER THAN ADHERING STRICTLY TO REDUCTION
BY ONE-HALF. I POINTED OUT THAT DEPARTURE BEFORE END OF SCHOOL
TERM (JUNE 10) WOULD BE DISADVANTAGEOUS, AND THAT IT WOULD BE

NECESSARY TO IDENTIFY ONGOING ASSIGNMENTS FOR THOSE ASKED TO LEAVE. (NOTE - ALTHOUGH PARA 3 REF B HAD INSTRUCTED ME TO REFER TO PLANNED REDUCTION FROM 47 TO 29, EMBASSY HAD ALREADY IDENTIFIED ONE GSO AS ONE ADDITIONAL OFFICER WHO COULD LEAVE BEFORE JULY 31, SO I USED FIGURE OF 28, ON REASONING THAT IT WOULD BE EASIER TO SELL TO EPMG).

3. I ALSO EXPLAINED TO BERHANE THAT SOLE FUNCTION OF MARINES WAS TO GUARD EMBASSY BUILDINGS 24 HOURS A DAY AND THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO PERFORM THIS DUTY WITH LESS THAN SIX MEN ASSIGNED TO POST. I URGED THAT DEMAND FOR TWO-THIRDS REDUCTION BE MODIFIED TO REFLECT THIS FACT OF LIFE.

4. BERHANE SAID HE WOULD CONTINUE TO TRY TO REACH FONMIN, BUT WAS DOUBTFUL THAT HE COULD DO SO BEFORE MORNING MAY 30, AT WHICH TIME HE HOPED TO HAVE RESPONSE TO MY REQUESTS. I PURPOSELY AVOIDED RAISING CLOSURE OF DAO OFFICE WITH HIM, SINCE I AM CONVINCED, GIVEN ATTENTION TO ATTACHES DISPLAYED BY MEDIA, THAT TO HAVE DONE SO WOULD HAVE ACHIEVED NOTHING FOR DAO AND MIGHT WELL HAVE JEOPARDIZED ANY CHANCES WE MIGHT HAVE TO OBTAIN EPMG APPROVAL FOR EITHER OF OUR OTHER REQUESTS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Litigation Codes:
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